REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's Advisory Action of December 10, 2009 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying request for continued examination and Amendment of the claims, and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claims 1 and 17 are amended to specify that the search input query has a specialized format which contains different formats of the individual characters of the input digital ink, the different formats of the individual characters of the input digital ink are determined, digital ink searching algorithms which are each specialized to the respectively different formats of the individual characters of the input digital ink are selected, the input digital ink is processed in accordance with the selected digital ink searching algorithms with segmenting specific to the specialized format of the search input query, and the database is searched utilising the processed input digital ink and selected digital ink searching algorithms; and

dependent claims 2-16 and 18-23 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application as the amended features are described, for example, at page 14, lines 8-23 of the present specification.

Regarding 3(c) and 7a) of Advisory Action

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claims 1 and 17, and claims 2-16 and 18-23, is not disclosed or suggested by Lopresti in view of Hull, because unlike the claimed invention in which the different specialized digital ink searching algorithms are selected to process the different specialized formats of the individual characters of the input digital ink, Hull merely discloses using syntactic, word matcher and elastic matcher algorithms on scribbled characters, which are clearly all of the same format.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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